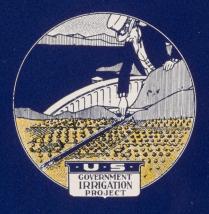
# California Orland



the project of no regrets

#### THE ORLAND PROJECT

THE Orland Project, the only U. S. Government Irrigation Project entirely within the boundaries of California, is located about one hundred miles north of Sacramento, the State Capitol, on the northern part of Glenn County and on the western edge of the trough of the Sacramento Valley.

The Project was planned and constructed by the U. S. Reclamation Service for the reclamation of 20,500 acres of semi-arid land, the construction cost being advanced by the Federal Government, to be paid back in twenty annual payments, without interest. It is worthy of note that not a settler on the project has ever defaulted in his obligation to the government.

The irrigation plan involves the impounding of 52,-000 acre feet of water from the watershed of Little Stony Creek. The water thus impounded is drawn upon for irrigation purposes after the natural flow of Stony Creek ceases to supply the needs, usually during the month of June. The stored water is conveyed from the East Park Reservoir through the natural channel of Stony Creek for some 45 miles, where the diversion dams are located from which it is taken into the distributing system, comprising 145 miles of canals and laterals.

Climate: This valley is particularly favored by nature in that it is protected from winter temperatures by mountains on the East, North and West, giving it a semi-tropical climate. The Orland Project is to all practical purposes free from frost. Flowers bloom unprotected throughout the entire season. Oranges grow and flourish with freedom from injury from low temperatures and almond trees bloom in February with immunity from frosts.

Soils: The lands of the project are alluvial, gravelly loam and sandy silt loam, free from alkali and hard pan, and have for the most part gravelly subsoil. A slope of about 15 feet to the mile toward the Sacramento River, 9 miles to the east, provides a most excellent drainage so necessary in irrigation districts.

Crops: The Project area, which originally consisted of 130 farms, averaging 157 acres each, supporting a population not to exceed 200, yielding to the touch of irrigation, has been broken up into approximately 700 small farms devoted to growing



WATER FROM THIS IRRIGATION DAM BRINGS BLOSSOMS AND





fields of alfalfa, with small herds of purebred livestock and poultry, and orchards of almonds, peaches, olives, prunes, apricots, pears, figs, grapes, oranges, lemons and other fruits. The area now has a farm population of 2,100.

Growth:

Before the advent of government irrigation the lands now in the Project were valued at about \$30.00 per acre, or a total value of \$605,000.00. At the close of the year 1921 the value of the land and improvements was given as \$6,150,000.00. These figures indicate that irrigation development has enhanced land values ten fold. The value of crops produced and livestock marketed in 1921 alone is \$45,000.00 in excess of the value of the land in the project before its development by irrigation.

Transportation: Centrally traversed north and south by the transcontinental line of the Southern Pacific Railroad, gives through transportation facilities in both directions to points where rail meets sail.

Paralleling the Southern Pacific across the Project is a concrete State Highway which runs the full length of the State. Another concrete highway ex-



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tending from Orland to Chico and connecting the two sides of the Sacramento Valley is now under construction. Connecting with these highways are good gravel roads leading to all parts of the Project. A network of telephone lines and rural mail delivery routes cover the area and most of the rural districts are served by electric current for lighting and power purposes.

### Schools and Churches:

The Orland Project school system is excellent. It boasts of seven rural schools of modern concrete construc-

tion, with an attendance of over 200 students. Over 500 children and 15 teachers attend the Orland Grammar School, a fine concrete structure of the Mission style, with three auxiliary buildings. The High School comprises three large, modern concrete buildings on a 14-acre campus. The Orland High, with an attendance of about 275 pupils and 15 teachers, is accredited to the State University.

Nine religious denominations are represented in Orland, six of them with adequate church edifices. Fraternal organizations are well represented and two have fine buildings of their own.

## Civic Development:

The town of Orland, with a population of about 2,000, is situated in the center of this Project, and

although supported entirely by the contiguous agricultural territory, has more than trebled its population since the inception of the Project.

The intelligent application of water to the soil represents the highest type of agricultural husbandry. The government irrigation of California soil has brought to the Land of Orland the highest type of American citizenship which is reflected in every phase of agricultural and commercial development, in school, church and social circles.

#### IRRIGATION BY PUMPING

SURROUNDING the Orland Project with its government irrigation, are districts irrigated by means of pumping plants. In all of these districts the general conditions, character of soil, adaptability to crops, climatic conditions, type of settlers and opportunities offered are almost identical to those described as applying to the Orland Project.

Capay Rancho:

Lying to the northeast, a distance of about seven miles, is the Capay Rancho, an old Spanish land grant comprising some 14,000 acres. The subdivision plan includes an irrigation well on each 40 to 80 acre unit, equipped with an electrically driven deep water turbine pump. By this means the settler is enabled to own and operate his own irrigation system. These wells range from 100 to 300 feet in depth and draw an average of 750 gallons of water per minute. At the present time there are over one hundred wells in operation, and tests have proven that there is an abundant subterranean water supply.

Loam Ridge Tract:

Joining the Orland Project on the southeast is the Loam Ridge Tract, comprising 1,200 acres. This district is supplied with its irrigation water from five wells equipped with powerful pumps that deliver the water into canals from which it is distributed to the individual farms. Each acre of land carries its proportion of ownership in the central wells and equipment.

Write to the Chamber of Commerce, Orland, Calif.



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For additional information write to the Orland Chamber of Commerce, Orland, California.

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